

Increased media concentration or even the present level of media concentration is bad public policy. The priority of the FCC should be to protect and increase the integrity and diversity of the information sources available to the American Public, not decrease those sources. The fanatical emphasis on protecting the corporate bottom line and "free market philosophy" is not in the best interest of the country or a well informed American Public. What may be good for the "giant Media Corporation", will in all probability, not be good for the informed American Public. Further concentration of media ownership will lead to a further increase of the present level of media mono-culture. A media culture that is stiffling independent journalistic investigation and preventing the wide spread dissemination of views or opinions that differ from the accepted norm. One of the key strengths of the American Democracy has been the availability of independent sources of public information that were capable of wide dissemination of non-standard views or opinions. Allowing increased media concentration will not strengthen or increase these sources of independent public information or journalistic investigation. One has only to view the major television networks to see how the present level of concentration has significantly reduced independent thought and investigation.

I also object to the way that the FCC is trying, "In The Dead Of Night", to fundamentally change the way that Americans receive the information that allows them to make informed decisions about the "world around them" and their government in particular. Holding one small public meeting in a local part of Virginia does not meet the "Laugh Test" for Public Participation/Input. Rule changes of this nature require maximum exposure and at least a nationwide series of meetings to truly gauge public opinion. The FCC is charged with protecting the public, not corporations, and the effort to make these changes without adequate investigation, public discussion or public consideration is an abrogation of the FCC's sworn duty to the American public.

I have seen articles about this rules change that has stated that some members of the FCC believe that the Internet is providing an alternative to Television, Radio and Newspapers, but it has been my experience that most of what is seen on the internet is just a reprinting of what has been seen in other media. In other words you don't get diversity or an independent presentation by printing the same article multiple times.

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